

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 131929
ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EUR-12 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15
/055 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:NRH
APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:PASANJUAN
-----081820Z 118385 /53

P 081553Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 131929

USSALTWO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JUNE 8 PRESS ROUNDUP

EMBASSY PARIS PASS VAN DOREN, ACDA

1. BERNARD WEINRAUB IN JUNE 8 NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER TOLD CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION SUPPORTING DEVELOPMENT OF B-1 BOMBER HE WOULD MAKE BASIC JUDGMENT THIS MONTH ABOUT FUTURE OF THAT EXPENSIVE PLANE. WEINRAUB SAID DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN RECEIVED DETAILED STUDY ON B-1 AND VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES TO IT, SUCH AS KEEPING B-52 OR DEVELOPING FLEET OF JUMBO JETS ARMED WITH CRUISE MISSILES THAT COULD BE LAUNCHED FROM OUTSIDE RANGE OF SOVIET AIR DEFENSE COVERAGE. BROOKINGS INSTITUTE LAST YEAR ESTIMATED THAT "STANDOFF BOMBER FORCE" AS ALTERNATIVE TO B-1 MIGHT SAVE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS. BROWN, ACCORDING TO WEINRAUB, IS EXPECTED TO MAKE HIS OWN RECOMMENDATIONS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 131929

TO CARTER IN NEXT FEW WEEKS. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE PREDICTED THAT PRESIDENT WILL DECIDE TO BUILD SOME B-1S BUT NOT 244 AIR FORCE WANTS.

2. GEORGE C. WILSON IN WASHINGTON POST SAID PENTAGON AND MOSCOW HAVE PROVIDED ARGUMENTS FOR BUILDING B-1. PENTAGON

STUDIES PORTRAY B-1 AS MOST ATTRACTIVE OPTION FOR HOLDING UP THIRD LEG OF "TRIAD," PENTAGON TERM FOR THREE TYPES OF STRATEGIC FORCES FOR SHOOTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AT SOVIET UNION--BOMBERS, LAND-BASED MISSILES AND SUBMARINE-BASED MISSILES. WILSON SAID DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN IN PUTTING TOGETHER HIS RECOMMENDATION TO PRESIDENT ON WHETHER TO ORDER B-1 INTO PRODUCTION, COMMISSIONED NUMBER OF STUDIES AND ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY HIS DECISION WOULD HINGE LARGELY ON KIND OF AIR DEFENSE SOVIETS WERE EXPECTED TO FIELD IN 1980S AND 1990S. ONE PENTAGON STUDY, WILSON REPORTED, CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD COST ALMOST AS MUCH TO RENOVATE CURRENT FLEET OF 350 B-52S AS TO BUY 244 BRAND NEW B-1S, 18 BILLION DOLLARS COMPARED TO 24.8 BILLION DOLLARS. ADDING THREE BILLION DOLLARS ALREADY INVESTED IN B-1, WILSON NOTED, DIFFERENCE IS EVEN SMALLER. ANOTHER SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE TO B-1 IS STUFFING CIVILIAN TRANSPORT PLANES, LIKE BOEING 747, WITH AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILES THAT COULD BE FIRED WHILE PLANE REMAINED SAFE DISTANCE FROM ENEMY DEFENSES. PENTAGON STUDIES, WILSON SAID, SHOW THAT SOVIET FIGHTERS COULD SHOOT DOWN COMPARATIVELY SLOW CIVILIAN TRANSPORT BEFORE THEY COULD LAUNCH THEIR MISSILES. WILSON SAID SOVIETS "BY REFUSING TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY COMPREHENSIVE ARMS CONTROL PROPOSAL CARTER SENT TO MOSCOW, HAVE PROVIDED PRESIDENT WITH ARGUMENT THAT HE NEEDS TO KEEP BUILDING B-1 FOR BARGAINING POWER, EVEN THOUGH ALL ARMS BUILDING IS 'WASTEFUL'--AS HE SAID DURING CAMPAIGN...IT WILL BE TEMPTING FOR CARTER TO STATE THAT HE WILL BUILD UP TOWARD FORCE OF ABOUT 150 B-1 BOMBERS BUT WILL CALL OFF PROGRAM IF SOVIETS AGREE TO PULL BACK ON MODERNIZATION OF THEIR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 131929

STRATEGIC ARSENAL AS WELL. ALTHOUGH B-1 GO-AHEAD BY CARTER WOULD INFURIATE CITIZEN GROUPS ALLIED IN 'STOP B-1' CAMPAIGN, FEW LEADERS IN ARMS CONTROL COMMUNITY WOULD JOIN THEIR PROTEST. ARMS CONTROLLERS ARE FOCUSING INSTEAD ON STOPPING WEAPONS LIKE HIGHLY ACCURATE MARK 12 WARHEAD AND MX MOBILE MISSILE, WHICH THEY FEAR WOULD UPSET BALANCE OF TERROR BY THREATENING SOVIETS WITH SURPRISE FIRST STRIKE. ARMS CONTROLLERS DO NOT PUT B-1 IN 'FIRST STRIKE' CATEGORY."

3. WASHINGTON POST, IN EDITORIAL, SAID "IT IS RELIEF TO LEARN THAT PRESIDENT CARTER DOES NOT PLAN AUTOMATICALLY TO APPROVE PRODUCTION OF CONTROVERSIAL NEUTRON WARHEAD FOR ARMY'S LANCE MISSILE." POST NOTED PRESIDENT, ACCORDING TO WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN, WILL REACH NO JUDGMENT ON WHETHER TO GO AHEAD WITH WARHEAD UNTIL TWO IMPORTANT PENDING STUDIES OF AMERICAN MILITARY NEEDS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. "WE HOPE HE WILL THEN SAY NO TO NEUTRON WARHEAD," POST CONCLUDED.

4. NEW YORK TIMES SAID ADMINISTRATION DECISION NOT TO SELL 250 F-18L FIGHTER PLANES TO IRAN MEANS POTENTIAL LOSS OF ESTIMATED 4 BILLION DOLLARS TO NORTHROP CORPORATION. IRAN WAS SET TO FINANCE DEVELOPMENT OF LAND-BASED VERSION OF F-18, PERHAPS SETTING PRECEDENT FOR FOREIGN COUNTRY TO INFLUENCE WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT AND FOREIGN MILITARY SALES IN US, TIMES SAID. PLANE WAS TO HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED ESPECIALLY FOR IRAN, TIMES ADDED, "WHICH SEEMED TO VIOLATE KEY PRINCIPLE OF POLICY THAT BARS 'CO-PRODUCTION AGREEMENTS FOR SIGNIFICANT WEAPONS.'"

5. WASHINGTON POST'S KAREN DEYOUNG, IN DISPATCH FROM BUENOS AIRES, SAID LATIN AMERICA, "CRIPPLED BY WORLD OIL PRICES AND ANXIOUS TO CLAIM ITS PLACE IN DEVELOPED WORLD," IS PREPARING TO ENTER REALM OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN BIG WAY. DEYOUNG SAID BEFORE END OF 20TH CENTURY, SIX LATIN COUNTRIES EXPECT TO BE RUNNING THEIR OWN NUCLEAR POWER
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 131929

PLANTS AND AT LEAST THREE OTHERS PLAN TO HAVE SMALL NUCLEAR RESEARCH REACTORS. ALTHOUGH ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL SAY THEY HAVE NO INTENTION OF BUILDING BOMBS, SHE NOTED, THEY HAVE NOT RATIFIED KEY PORTIONS OF LATIN AMERICA'S NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, 1967 TLATELOLCO TREATY. "ADDITIONALLY, DESPITE HEAVY US PRESSURE, NEITHER HAS SIGNED NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY," DEYOUNG POINTED OUT. SHE SAID LATINS, PARTICULARLY BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA, MAINTAIN THEY HAVE THEIR OWN SAFEGUARDS WRITTEN INTO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH COUNTRIES THAT SUPPLIED THEIR TECHNOLOGY.

6. JUNE 13 NEWSWEEK REPORTS THAT COMPROMISE IS IN WORKS TO SETTLE "SERIOUS DIFFERENCES" BETWEEN JAPAN AND US OVER TOKYO'S DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR POWER. "PRESIDENT CARTER'S CRUSADE AGAINST SPREAD OF NUCLEAR ARMS AND HIS OPPOSITION TO ALLOWING ALLIES TO REPROCESS SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL HAVE OFFENDED JAPAN, WHICH DEPENDS ON FOREIGN SOURCES FOR 96 PERCENT OF ITS ENERGY," NEWSWEEK SAID. COMPROMISE, ACCORDING TO MAGAZINE, INVOLVES MODIFYING JAPANESE PLANT AT TOKAI SO THAT PLUTONIUM IT PRODUCES WILL BE MIXED WITH URANIUM, COMBINATION THAT CANNOT BE USED FOR BOMBS. VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, CHIEF OF STATE, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE131929
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPMPOPE:NRH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770204-0676
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770677/aaaacpqw.tel
Line Count: 160
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b376a182-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2226025
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JUNE 8 PRESS ROUNDUP EMBASSY PARIS PASS VAN DOREN, ACDA
TAGS: PARM, SOPN, US, NEW YORK TIMES, (CARTER, JIMMY), (WEINRAUB, BERNARD)
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b376a182-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009